

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

### **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A document processing system having a user interface for creating a plurality of tabbed pages within said document, each tabbed page carrying an individual tab, said user interface comprising:

an interactive tab data entry frame facilitating entry of tab data by an operator, including a total number of said tabbed pages in said document and a number of unique tab positions to format said tabbed pages, and entry of tab content for each associated tab by the operator; and

a page preview frame showing a layout of the unique tab positions for formatted tabbed pages and said tab content entered by the operator for each associated tab, which tab data entry frame and page preview frame are simultaneously displayed on the same screen.

2. (Original) The document processing system of claim 1, wherein said user interface allows all of said tab data and tab content to be entered at one time.

3. (Original) The document processing system of claim 1, wherein said user interface allows said tab content to be entered during creation of a document.

4. (Currently Amended) The document processing system of claim 1, wherein said page preview frame shows an accurate contemporaneous image of said tabbed page with said tab content.

5. (Original) The document processing system of claim 1, wherein said page preview frame shows an accurate image of a plurality of said tabbed pages with a corresponding plurality of said tab content.

6. (Original) The document processing system of claim 1, wherein said user interface is adapted to receive data pertaining to a location of said tabbed pages in a document to allow for automated insertion of said tabbed pages.

7. (Original) The document processing system of claim 1, wherein said tab content comprises a graphic.

8. (Original) The document processing system of claim 7, wherein said graphic is a color graphic.

9. (Currently Amended) A ~~[[The]]~~ document processing system of claim 1, having a user interface for creating a plurality of tabbed pages within said document, each tabbed page carrying an individual tab, said user interface comprising:

a tab data entry frame facilitating entry of tab data, including a total number of said tabbed pages in said document and a number of unique tab positions to format said tabbed pages, and entry of tab content for each associated tab which wherein said tab content includes merged fields.

10. (Original) The document processing system of claim 1, wherein said user interface is adapted to compensate for deleted tabbed pages.

11. (Original) The document processing system of claim 1, wherein said user interface is adapted to automatically accommodate a change in tab data involving a change in tab modulus.

12. (Original) The document processing system of claim 1, wherein said user interface is adapted to digitize tab content.

13. (Original) The document processing system of claim 1, wherein said user interface is adapted to justify tab content on said tab.

14. (Original) The document processing system of claim 1, wherein a personal computer hosts said user interface.

15-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) An automated method for processing a document having tabbed pages, said method comprising the steps of:

entering by an operator tab modulus data including a number of unique tab positions;

receiving entered tab modulus data;

determining a location of a tab on each of said tabbed pages based on received modulus data;

receiving tab content; and

positioning tab content onto said tab.

18. (Original) The method for processing a document having tabbed pages of claim 17, wherein said step of positioning tab content involves rotating said tab content for placement on said tab.

19. (Previously Presented) The method for processing a document having tabbed pages of claim 17, further comprising the steps of:

receiving data identifying a location of at least one of said tabbed pages in said document; and

automatically inserting said at least one of said tabbed pages in said document.

20. (Currently Amended) A storage medium for use in an electronic device, said medium holding instructions for performing an automated method for processing a document having precut tabbed pages, comprising the steps of:

assigning tabs and tabs properties to the precut pages tabs to generate a stock of the tabs, including:

entering tab modulus by an operator including a total number of tabbed pages in said document and a location of each tab;

creating by the operator a list of tab contents including at least one of a text and graphics to be printed on each tab,

entering an orientation and properties to be applied to the tab content of each tab, which properties include font and font size;

formatting said document, including:

receiving tab modulus data of the tab stock,

determining a location of each printable tab based on said received tab stock modulus,

receiving tab content for each tab,

positioning said received tab content onto an associated tab based on said tab properties assigned to said associated tab,

receiving data identifying locations of said tabbed pages in said document, and

automatically determining the locations of said tabbed pages in said document to reflect most recently entered tab stock modulus;

and

transmitting said document to a printing device.